

2. AN AMENDMENT TO BE OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE
Price OF Georgia,
OR H is DESIGNEE, DEBATABLE FOR 10 MINUTES.

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1429, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA**

At the end, add the following (and make such technical and conforming changes as may be appropriate):

**1 TITLE II—STATE
2 DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

3 SEC. 201. STATE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

4 The Head Start Act is amended by inserting after
5 section 643 the following new section:

6 “SEC. 643A. STATE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

7 “(a) GRANTS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

9 “(A) ELIGIBLE STATES.—In the case of
10 each eligible State that submits to the Sec-
11 retary an application that fulfills the require-
12 ments of this section, the Secretary, from
13 amounts appropriated under section 639(a),
14 shall make a grant to the State to carry out a
15 State demonstration program under this sec-
16 tion, except that the Secretary shall not make
17 such grants to more than 8 eligible States.

1 “(B) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary
2 shall make awards to those States that dem-
3 onstrate—

4 “(i) that the State standards generally
5 meet or exceed the standards that ensure
6 the quality and effectiveness of programs
7 operated by Head Start agencies;

8 “(ii) the capacity to deliver high qual-
9 ity early childhood education services to
10 prepare children, including low-income chil-
11 dren, for school; and

12 “(iii) success in improving the school
13 readiness of children.

14 “(2) STATE ELIGIBILITY.—A State shall be eli-
15 gible to participate in the program under this sec-
16 tion if it meets each of the following criteria:

17 “(A) The State has an existing State sup-
18 ported system providing public prekindergarten
19 to children prior to entry into kindergarten.

20 “(B) The State has implemented standards
21 as of fiscal year 2007 for school readiness that
22 include standards for language, prereading and
23 premathematics development for prekind-
24 garten that are aligned with State kindergarten
25 through twelfth grade academic content stand-

1 ards and which shall apply to all programs re-
2 ceiving funds under this part or provides an as-
3 surance that such standards will be aligned by
4 the end of the second fiscal year of participa-
5 tion.

6 “(C) State and locally appropriated funds
7 for prekindergarten services and Head Start
8 services in the base year under this section shall
9 not be less than 50 percent of the Federal
10 funds that the grantees in the State received
11 under this Act in the base year for services to
12 Head Start eligible children, excluding amounts
13 for services provided under section 645A.

14 “(D) The State has established a means
15 for inter-agency coordination and collaboration
16 in the development of the plan under subsection
17 (h).

18 “(b) LEAD AGENCY.—A program under this section
19 shall be administered by a State governmental entity des-
20 ignated by the Chief Executive Officer of the State as the
21 lead State agency.

22 “(c) STATE OPERATION OF PROGRAM.—The State
23 may conduct all or any part of the program under this
24 section (including the activities specified in subsection (g))
25 directly or by grant, contract, or cooperative agreement.

1 “(d) TRANSITION.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For 60 months after the
3 effective date of this section, the State shall continue
4 to provide funds to each local grantee who—

5 “(A) was receiving funds under this sub-
6 chapter, as in effect prior to the date of enact-
7 ment of this section, and

8 “(B) is serving the geographic area cov-
9 ered by the plan in section 643A(h).”

10 Such continuing grants shall be made in ac-
11 cordance with the terms of the grant made to the
12 local grantee immediately prior to such date of en-
13 actment. This paragraph shall not apply to a grant
14 applicant who has experienced substantial uncor-
15 rected deficiencies on Department of Health and
16 Human Services monitoring reports during any year
17 of the most recent 5-year period, or to a grantee
18 that, as determined by the State, does not comply
19 with the State plan described in subsection 643A(h)
20 submitted to the Secretary.

21 “(e) FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

22 “(1) ALLOCATION OF FEDERAL ALLOTMENTS
23 TO STATE PROGRAMS.—From each total amount de-
24 scribed in paragraph (2) allotted to a State for a fis-
25 cal year, the Secretary shall pay to a State with a

1 program approved under this section for such fiscal
2 year an amount equal to—

3 “(A) if the State program is statewide,
4 100 percent of such total amount; and

5 “(B) if the State program is limited to a
6 geographic area or areas, the sum of—

7 “(i) an amount equal to the amount
8 received by grantees in such geographic
9 area or areas for the Federal fiscal year
10 preceding the first fiscal year of the State
11 program under this section; plus

12 “(ii) an amount bearing the same
13 ratio to the excess (if any) above the total
14 amount for such preceding fiscal year as
15 the number of children less than 5 years of
16 age from families whose income is below
17 the poverty line in the geographic area or
18 areas included in the program bears to the
19 total number of such children in the State
20 (as determined using the same data used
21 pursuant to section 640(a)(4)(B)).

22 “(2) FUNDS ALLOCATED.—For purposes of
23 paragraph (1), amounts described in this paragraph
24 are:

1 “(A) BASIC STATE ALLOTMENTS.—
2 Amounts allotted to States pursuant to section
3 640(a)(4), including amounts reserved pursuant
4 to section 640(a)(5), excluding amounts for
5 services provided under section 645A.

6 “(B) STATE ALLOTMENTS OF EXPANSION
7 FUNDS.—Amounts allotted to States pursuant
8 to section 640(a)(3)(D)(i)(I) for program ex-
9 pansion.

10 “(C) QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS.—
11 Quality improvement funds (if any) reserved
12 pursuant to section 640(a)(3).

13 “(D) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
14 ANCE FUNDS.—An amount bearing the same
15 ratio to the amount set aside for training and
16 technical assistance activities pursuant to sec-
17 tion 640(a)(2)(C)(i) and (ii) as the State’s
18 share of amounts allotted under section
19 640(a)(4)(B) bears to the total amount so allot-
20 ted (and for purposes of subparagraph (A),
21 such amount shall be considered an amount al-
22 lotted to the State for the fiscal year).

23 “(3) NON-FEDERAL MATCH.—(A) In deter-
24 mining the amount of Federal and non-Federal con-
25 tributions for purposes of this section, the amounts

1 required to be expended by the State under sub-
2 section (h)(14)(B) (relating to maintenance of ef-
3 fort) shall be excluded.

4 “(B) Financial assistance made available to a
5 State under this subchapter shall be in an amount
6 equal to 95 percent of the total amount expended for
7 such programs. The Secretary shall require non-Fed-
8 eral contributions in an amount equal to 5 percent
9 of the total amount expended under this subchapter
10 for such programs.

11 “(C) Non-Federal contributions may be made
12 in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including plant,
13 equipment, or services.

14 “(4) COMBINED OPERATIONS WITH OTHER
15 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—A
16 State may combine funds for a program under this
17 section with funds for other early childhood pro-
18 grams serving children in the same age group, as
19 long as all applicable requirements of this sub-
20 chapter are met with respect to either—

21 “(A) the entire combined program; or

22 “(B) each child served in such combined
23 program for whom the services provided are
24 funded from appropriations under this sub-

1 chapter or non-Federal matching contributions
2 under this subchapter.

3 “(5) USE OF FUNDS WITHOUT REGARD TO AL-
4 LOTMENT PURPOSES.—A State may use funds re-
5 ceived pursuant to this section for any program pur-
6 pose set forth in section 636, without regard to the
7 purposes for such funds specified in section 640.

8 “(6) OTHER FUNDS.—Funds received under
9 this section shall not supplant any non-Federal,
10 State or local funds that would otherwise be used for
11 activities authorized under this section or similar ac-
12 tivities carried out in the State.

13 “(f) COORDINATION AND CHOICE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State demonstration
15 Program shall be coordinated with the education
16 programs of local educational agencies in the State
17 to ensure that the program is effectively designed to
18 develop in children in the program the knowledge
19 and behaviors necessary to transition successfully to
20 kindergarten and to succeed in school.

21 “(2) PROGRAMS CONCERNED.—

22 “(A) REQUIRED PROGRAMS.—Such coordi-
23 nation shall occur regarding the implementation
24 of the following:

1 “(i) The Early Reading First and
2 Even Start programs under title I, part B,
3 subparts 2 and 3 of the Elementary and
4 Secondary Education Act of 1965, and
5 other preschool programs carried out
6 under title I of that Act.

7 “(ii) State prekindergarten programs.

8 “(iii) The Ready-to-Learn Television
9 Program under subpart 3 of part D of title
10 II of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
11 cation Act.

12 “(B) OPTIONAL PROGRAMS.—Such coordi-
13 nation may occur regarding the implementation
14 of the following:

15 “(i) Programs under the Child Care
16 and Development Block Grant Act.

17 “(ii) Other publicly funded early child-
18 hood education programs.

19 “(3) PARENTAL CHOICE.—The program shall
20 allow parents to choose the preschool program for
21 their child.

22 “(g) REQUIRED SERVICES.—With funds under this
23 section, the State shall provide services described in sec-
24 tion 641A at least as extensive as were provided, and to
25 at least as many low-income children and families in each

1 fiscal year as were provided such services, with such funds
2 in the base year in the State (or, if applicable, in the geo-
3 graphic area included in the State program). A program
4 under this section shall include the following comprehen-
5 sive activities designed to promote school readiness and
6 success in school:

7 “(1) CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION.—

8 Activities with enrolled children that promote—

9 “(A) cognitive development, language de-
10 velopment, prereading, and premathematics
11 knowledge and skills;

12 “(B) physical development, health, and nu-
13 trition (including through coordination with,
14 and referral of children and families to local
15 health service entities; and

16 “(C) social development important for en-
17 vironments constructive for child development,
18 early learning, and school success.

19 “(2) PARENT EDUCATION AND INVOLVE-
20 MENT.—Activities with the parents of enrolled chil-
21 dren directed at enhancing and encouraging—

22 “(A) involvement in, and ability to sup-
23 port, their children’s educational development;

24 “(B) parenting skills and understanding of
25 child development; and

1 “(C) ability to participate effectively in de-
2 cisions relating to the education of their chil-
3 dren.

4 “(3) SOCIAL AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERV-
5 ICES.—Activities directed at securing appropriate so-
6 cial and family support services for enrolled children
7 and their families, primarily through referral and co-
8 ordination with local, State, and Federal entities
9 that provide such services.

10 “(4) HEAD START SERVICES.—For purposes of
11 paragraph (1) Head Start services furnished in a
12 State program under this section shall include all
13 Head Start services, other than—

14 “(A) Indian Head Start programs and mi-
15 grant and seasonal Head Start programs sup-
16 ported with funds reserved under section
17 640(a)(2)(A); and

18 “(B) Early Head Start services provided
19 under section 645A.

20 “(h) STATE PLAN.—A State proposing to administer
21 a program under this section shall submit a State plan
22 to the Secretary. The State plan shall include the fol-
23 lowing:

1 “(1) LEAD STATE AGENCY.—The plan shall
2 identify the entity designated by the Chief Executive
3 Officer of the State as the lead State agency.

4 “(2) GEOGRAPHIC AREA.—The plan shall speci-
5 fy whether the program is statewide, and, if it is
6 not, identify the geographic area or areas covered by
7 the plan. A geographic area may be a city, county,
8 standard metropolitan statistical area, or such other
9 geographic area in the State.

10 “(3) PROGRAM PERIOD.—A State program
11 under this section shall be in effect for 5 Federal fis-
12 cal years.

13 “(4) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.—The plan shall
14 describe the services under subsection (f) to be pro-
15 vided in the program and arrangements the State
16 proposes to use to provide the services specified in
17 subsection (g), including how the State will leverage
18 existing delivery systems for such services.

19 “(5) NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—The plan shall de-
20 scribe the results of a State needs assessment and
21 shall provide an assurance that the State will use
22 the results to identify the needs for early childhood
23 education services within a State or geographic area
24 to be served and is targeting services to those areas

1 of greatest need and to expand and improve services
2 to disadvantaged children in the State.

3 “(6) ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE.—The plan
4 shall provide an assurance that the State program
5 will comply with the requirements of this section, in-
6 cluding each of the following:

7 “(A) PRIORITY FOR LOW-INCOME CHIL-
8 DREN.—Requirements established pursuant to
9 section 645(a) concerning the eligibility and pri-
10 ority of individuals for participation in Head
11 Start programs.

12 “(B) CONTINUATION FOR EXISTING PRO-
13 VIDERS.—An applicant who received funds
14 under this subchapter in prior fiscal years and
15 has not corrected any substantial deficiencies
16 identified in the past 5 years shall not be eligi-
17 ble to receive any grants, contract, or coopera-
18 tive agreements under this section.

19 “(C) PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN WITH
20 DISABILITIES.—Requirements pursuant to sec-
21 tion 640(d) concerning Head Start enrollment
22 opportunities and services for children with dis-
23 abilities.

24 “(D) PROVISIONS CONCERNING FEES AND
25 COPAYMENTS.—The provisions of section

1 645(b) concerning the charging of fees and the
2 circumstances under which copayments are per-
3 missible.

4 “(E) FEDERAL SHARE; STATE AND LOCAL
5 MATCHING.—The provisions of section 640(b)
6 limiting Federal financial assistance for Head
7 Start programs, and providing for non-Federal
8 contributions.

9 “(F) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The provi-
10 sions of section 644(b) limiting the share of
11 program funds that may be used for developing
12 and administering a program.

13 “(G) FEDERAL PROPERTY INTEREST.—
14 Applicable provisions of this subchapter regard-
15 ing the Federal Government interest in prop-
16 erty (including real property) purchased, leased,
17 or renovated with Federal funds.

18 “(7) IDENTIFICATION OF BARRIERS.—The plan
19 shall identify barriers in the State to the effective
20 use of Federal, State, and local public funds, and
21 private funds, for early education and care that are
22 available to the State on the date on which the ap-
23 plication is submitted.

24 “(8) STATE GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL READI-
25 NESS.—The plan shall include—

1 “(A) a State definition of school readiness;

2 “(B) a description of the State’s general

3 goals for school readiness, including how the

4 State intends to—

5 “(i) promote and maintain ongoing

6 communication and collaboration between

7 providers of early care and education and

8 local educational agencies in the State;

9 “(ii) align early childhood and kinder-

10 garten curricula to ensure program con-

11 tinuity; and

12 “(iii) ensure that children successfully

13 transition to kindergarten.

14 “(9) TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS.—The plan

15 shall assure that the qualifications and credentials

16 for early childhood teachers meet or exceed the

17 standards in section 648A(a)(2)(A), (B), and (C).

18 “(10) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—The

19 plan shall provide a description of the State plan for

20 assuring the ongoing professional development of

21 early childhood educators and administrators includ-

22 ing how the State intends to—

23 “(A) improve the competencies of early

24 childhood educators in meeting the cognitive

25 and other developmental needs of young chil-

1 dren through effective instructional strategies,
2 methods, and skills;

3 “(B) develop and implement initiatives to
4 effectively recruit and promote the retention of
5 well-qualified early childhood educators;

6 “(C) encourage institutions of higher edu-
7 cation, providers of community-based training,
8 and other qualified providers to develop high-
9 quality programs to prepare students to be
10 early childhood education professionals; and

11 “(D) improve the quality of professional
12 development available to meet the needs of
13 teachers that serve preschool children.

14 “(11) QUALITY STANDARDS.—The State shall
15 describe the State’s standards, applicable to all
16 agencies, programs, and projects that receive funds
17 under this subchapter, including a description of—

18 “(A) standards with respect to services re-
19 quired to be provided, including health, parental
20 involvement, nutritional, social, transition ac-
21 tivities described in section 642(d) of this sub-
22 chapter, and other services;

23 “(B)(i) education standards to promote the
24 school readiness of children participating in a

1 State program under title II of this subchapter;
2 and

3 “(ii) additional education standards to en-
4 sure that the children participating in the pro-
5 gram, at a minimum develop and dem-
6 onstrate—

7 “(I) language skills;

8 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills,
9 including interest in and appreciation of
10 books, reading and writing either alone or
11 with others;

12 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
13 skills, including aspects of classification,
14 seriation, number, spatial relations, and
15 time;

16 “(IV) cognitive abilities related to aca-
17 demic achievement;

18 “(V) social development important for
19 environments constructive for child devel-
20 opment, early learning, and school success;
21 and

22 “(VI) in the case of limited-English
23 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
24 sition of the English language;

1 “(C) the State’s minimum standards for
2 early childhood teacher credentials and quali-
3 fications;

4 “(D) the student-teacher ratio for each
5 age-group served;

6 “(E) administrative and financial manage-
7 ment standards;

8 “(F) standards relating to the condition
9 and location of facilities for such agencies, pro-
10 grams, and projects; and

11 “(G) such other standards as the State
12 finds to be appropriate.

13 “(12) STATE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The State plan
15 shall—

16 “(i) ensure that individual providers
17 are achieving results in advancing the
18 knowledge and behaviors identified by the
19 State as prerequisites for kindergarten
20 success; and

21 “(ii) specify the measures the State
22 will use to evaluate the progress toward
23 achieving such results and the effectiveness
24 of the State program under this section,

1 and of individual providers in such pro-
2 gram.

3 “(B) PUBLICATION OF RESULTS.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
5 (ii), the results shall be made publicly
6 available in the communities served by the
7 program.

8 “(ii) CONFIDENTIALITY SAFE-
9 GUARDS.—The system shall have in effect
10 privacy safeguards ensuring that informa-
11 tion on children included in data and re-
12 sults made public in accordance with
13 clause (i) shall be in aggregated form, and
14 shall not include information allowing iden-
15 tification of individual children.

16 “(13) TRANSITION PLAN.—The initial State
17 plan shall make provision for transition from the di-
18 rect Federal program under section 640 to the dem-
19 onstration program.

20 “(14) COOPERATION WITH RESEARCH STUD-
21 IES.—The plan shall provide assurances that the
22 State will cooperate with research activities de-
23 scribed in section 649.

24 “(15) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—The State
25 plan shall—

1 “(A) contain a commitment to provide
2 data, at such times and in such format as the
3 Secretary requires, concerning non-Federal ex-
4 penditures and numbers of children and fami-
5 lies served in preschool and Head Start pro-
6 grams during the base year and each fiscal year
7 covered under the State plan, sufficient to sat-
8 isfy the Secretary that the State program will
9 meet its obligation with respect to the mainte-
10 nance of effort requirement under subpara-
11 graph (B); and

12 “(B) assure that the resources (which may
13 be cash or in-kind) contributed by the State
14 government to child care for preschool-aged
15 children and other preschool programs, includ-
16 ing Head Start, in the State (or, if applicable,
17 in the geographic area included in the State
18 program) for each fiscal year in which the pro-
19 gram under this section is in effect shall be in
20 an amount at least equal to the total amount of
21 such State governmental resources contributed
22 to support such programs in the State (or geo-
23 graphic area) for the base year.

24 “(16) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
25 ANCE.—The State plan shall describe the training

1 and technical assistance activities that shall provide
2 high quality, sustained, intensive, and classroom-foc-
3 cused training and technical assistance in order to
4 have a positive and lasting impact on classroom in-
5 struction.

6 “(i) RECORDS, REPORTS AND AUDITS.—The State
7 agency administering the State program, and each entity
8 participating as a Head Start service provider, shall main-
9 tain such records, make such reports, and cooperate with
10 such audits as the Secretary may require for oversight of
11 program activities and expenditures.

12 “(j) INAPPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS CONCERNING
13 PRIORITY IN AGENCY DESIGNATION.—The provisions of
14 subsections (c) and (d) of section 641 (concerning priority
15 in designation of Head Start agencies, successor agencies,
16 and delegate agencies) shall not apply to a State program
17 under this section.

18 “(k) CONSULTATION.—A State proposing to admin-
19 ister a program under this section shall submit, with the
20 plan under this section, assurances that the plan was de-
21 veloped through timely and meaningful consultation with
22 appropriate public and private sector entities, including—

23 “(1) representatives of agencies responsible for
24 administering early education and care programs in
25 the State, including Head Start providers;

- 1 “(2) parents;
- 2 “(3) the State educational agency and local
- 3 educational agencies;
- 4 “(4) early childhood education professionals;
- 5 “(5) kindergarten teachers and teachers in
- 6 grades 1 through 4;
- 7 “(6) child welfare agencies;
- 8 “(7) child care resource and referral agencies;
- 9 “(8) child care providers; and
- 10 “(9) a wide array of persons interested in and
- 11 involved with early care and early education issues
- 12 in the State, such as representatives of—
- 13 “(A) health care professionals;
- 14 “(B) the State agency with responsibility
- 15 for the special supplemental nutrition program
- 16 for women, infants, and children established by
- 17 section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966;
- 18 “(C) institutions of higher education;
- 19 “(D) community-based and faith-based or-
- 20 ganizations;
- 21 “(E) the business community;
- 22 “(F) State legislators and local officials;
- 23 “(G) museums and libraries;
- 24 “(H) other relevant entities in the State;
- 25 and

1 “(I) other agencies that provide resources
2 for young children.

3 “(l) STATE PLAN SUBMISSION.—An application shall
4 be submitted by a State pursuant to this section to the
5 Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Edu-
6 cation, and shall be deemed to be approved by the Sec-
7 retary unless the Secretary makes a written determina-
8 tion, prior to the expiration of a reasonable time beginning
9 on the date on which the Secretary received the applica-
10 tion, that the application is not in compliance with this
11 section.

12 “(m) TREATMENT OF FUNDS.—If a State or local
13 government contributes its own funds to supplement ac-
14 tivities carried out under the applicable programs, the
15 State or local government has the option to separate out
16 the Federal funds or commingle them. If the funds are
17 commingled, the provisions of this subchapter shall apply
18 to all of the commingled funds in the same manner, and
19 to the same extent, as the provisions apply to the Federal
20 funds.

21 “(n) FEDERAL OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY; CORREC-
22 TIVE ACTION; WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—

23 “(1) FEDERAL OVERSIGHT.—The Secretary
24 shall retain the authority to oversee the operation of
25 the State program under this section, including

1 through review of records and reports, audits, and
2 onsite inspection of records and facilities and moni-
3 toring of program activities and operations.

4 “(2) CORRECTION OF DEFICIENCIES.—If the
5 Secretary determines that a State program under
6 this section substantially fails to meet the require-
7 ments of this section, the Secretary shall notify the
8 State of the deficiencies identified and require cor-
9 rective action as follows:

10 “(A) DEFICIENCIES CAUSING IMMEDIATE
11 JEOPARDY.—The Secretary shall require imme-
12 diate corrective action to eliminate a deficiency
13 that the Secretary finds threatens the health or
14 safety of staff or program participants or poses
15 a threat to the integrity of Federal funds.

16 “(B) OTHER DEFICIENCIES.—The Sec-
17 retary, taking into consideration the nature and
18 magnitude of a deficiency not described in sub-
19 paragraph (A), and the time reasonably re-
20 quired for correction, may—

21 “(i) require the State to correct the
22 deficiency within 90 days after notification
23 under this paragraph; or

24 “(ii) require the State to implement a
25 quality improvement plan designed to cor-

1 rect the deficiency within one year from
2 identification of the deficiency.

3 “(3) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—If the defi-
4 ciencies identified under paragraph (2) are not cor-
5 rected by the deadlines established by the Secretary,
6 the Secretary shall initiate proceedings to withdraw
7 approval of the State program under this section.

8 “(4) PROCEDURAL RIGHTS.—A State subject to
9 adverse action under this subsection shall have the
10 same procedural rights as a Head Start agency sub-
11 ject to adverse action under section 641A.

12 “(o) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-
14 tract with an independent organization outside of
15 the Department to design and conduct a multi-year,
16 rigorous, scientifically valid, quantitative evaluation
17 of the State demonstration program.

18 “(2) PROCESS.—The Secretary shall award a
19 contract within 180 days of the date of enactment
20 of the Improving Head Start Act of 2007, to an or-
21 ganization that is capable of designing and carrying
22 out an independent evaluation described in this sub-
23 section.

1 “(3) ANALYSIS.—The evaluation shall include
2 an analysis of each State participating in the State
3 demonstration program, including—

4 “(A) A quantitative description of the
5 State prekindergarten program and Head Start
6 programs within such State, as such programs
7 existed prior to participation in the State dem-
8 onstration program, including:

9 “(i) data on the characteristics of the
10 children served, including the overall num-
11 ber and percentages of children served
12 disaggregated by socioeconomic status,
13 race and ethnicity of those served;

14 “(ii) the quality and characteristics of
15 the services provided to such children; and

16 “(iii) the education attainment of in-
17 structional staff.

18 “(B) A quantitative and qualitative de-
19 scription of the State program after each year
20 of participation in the State demonstration,
21 which shall include each of the following:

22 “(i) A description of changes in the
23 administration of the State program, in-
24 cluding the Head Start program, within
25 such State.

1 “(ii) The rate of progress of the State
2 in improving the school readiness of dis-
3 advantaged children in the key domains of
4 development.

5 “(iii) Data as described in subpara-
6 graph (A), as updated annually.

7 “(iv) The extent to which each State
8 has met the goals established by such
9 State with respect to annual goals as de-
10 scribed under section 643(h)(10).

11 “(4) REPORT.—(A) The Secretary shall provide
12 an interim report on the progress of such evaluation
13 and of the progress of States participating in the
14 State demonstration in increasing the availability of
15 high quality prekindergarten services for low-income
16 children not later than October 1, 2010 to the Com-
17 mittee on Education and the Workforce in the
18 House of Representatives and the Committee on
19 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the Sen-
20 ate.

21 “(B) The Secretary shall provide a final report
22 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce
23 in the House of Representatives and the Committee
24 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the
25 Senate, not later than October 1, 2011, which shall

1 include an overall evaluation of the State demonstra-
2 tion program, including an assessment of its success
3 in increasing the overall availability of high quality
4 prekindergarten services for low income children in
5 each of the participating States as compared to a
6 representative sample of non-participating States.

7 “(p) STATE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.—Fol-
8 lowing the submission of an application fulfilling all re-
9 quirements of this section, a State that meets all eligibility
10 requirements set forth in section 643A(a)(2) and is se-
11 lected by the Secretary to participate in the demonstration
12 program under this section shall:

13 “(1) maintain or increase fiscal year 2007 State
14 funding levels for early childhood education;

15 “(2) provide an additional contribution of non-
16 federal funds equal to 5 percent of the State’s Fed-
17 eral Head Start allotment;

18 “(3) use Head Start funding only for the pur-
19 poses of Head Start as described in section 636;

20 “(4) provide all comprehensive social services
21 currently available to Head Start children, including
22 health and nutrition;

23 “(5) develop a strategy to maximize parental in-
24 volvement to enable parents to become full partners
25 in the education of their children;

1 “(6) demonstrate that the qualifications and
2 credentials for early childhood teachers meet or ex-
3 ceed the standards in section 648A(a)(2)(A), (B),
4 and (C);

5 “(7) enforce quality standards for school readi-
6 ness that are aligned with K-12 educational stand-
7 ards and generally meet or exceed the Federal Head
8 Start performance standards;

9 “(8) continue funding, for a period of 60
10 months, all current Head Start grantees as de-
11 scribed in section 643A(d);

12 “(9) provide services described in section 641A
13 that are at least as extensive as were provided, and
14 to at least as many low-income children and families
15 in the State, in each fiscal year as were provided
16 such services in the base year;

17 “(10) establish a comprehensive collaboration
18 effort to integrate Head Start, state-funded pre-kin-
19 dergarten programs, Even Start, Title I preschool,
20 and Early Reading First;

21 “(11) participate in independent evaluations of
22 the demonstration program authorized under this
23 subchapter; and

24 “(12) submit to Federal oversight by the Sec-
25 retary.

1 “(q) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
2 term ‘base year’ means the fiscal year 2007.”.